

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A device for determining the media type of source media, comprising:

a light source positioned to illuminate at least a portion of the source media;

5 a sensor positioned relative to said light source to view at least a portion of the

source media illuminated by said light source; and

a controller connected to said sensor.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein said light source is a light emitting diode.

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3. The device of claim 1, wherein said light source is incandescent.

4. The device of claim 1, wherein said sensor is a photoelectric cell.

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5. The device of claim 1, wherein said sensor is a charge-coupled device.

6. The device of claim 1, wherein the source media is interposed between said light source and said sensor.

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7. The device of claim 1, wherein the source media has a surface, and wherein said light source and said sensor both face said surface.

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illuminating at least a portion of the source media;

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10. The method of claim 9, wherein said sensing comprises sensing light transmitted through said source media.

15 11. The method of claim 9, wherein said sensing comprises sensing light reflected from the source media.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein said determining comprises selecting one of a plurality of preset media types based on said sensing.

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13. The method of claim 9, wherein said determining comprises determining the translucency of the source media based on said sensing.

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14. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

- scanning the source media;
- generating data as a result of said scanning; and
- interpreting said data based on said determined media type.

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15. The method of claim 14, further comprising transmitting said interpreted data to a marking engine for printing.

16. A computer program product for adjusting the interpretation of scanned data based on the type of source media scanned, comprising:

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- instructions for illuminating at least a portion of the source media;
- instructions for receiving data produced by sensing at least part of the illuminated portion of the source media; and
- instructions for determining the media type of the source media based on said data produced by said sensing.

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17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein said instructions for determining comprise instructions for selecting one of a plurality of preset media types based on said sensing.

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18. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein said instructions for determining comprise instructions for determining the translucency of the source media based on said sensing.

- instructions for interpreting said data based on said determined media type.